














The Paddock Tree 'Alcatraz' progress

The principal concept is the connecting of 3 droppers in a triangle shape combined with sturdy mesh so when cattle push against any area the force is distributed between the 3 droppers. This provides the rigidity which 2 or 3 unconnected droppers cannot provide. Project started July 2013

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
|  | <p>Version 1</p> <p>3 x 1.8m star droppers driven in to depth of 600mm, metal netball hoop connected by wire Light weight 2mm wire mesh 50x75 squares</p> |  | <p>Metal hoop couldn't be connected well enough to create rigidity. Wire mesh too light</p> |
|  | <p>Version 2</p> <p>3 x 1.8m star droppers 1/3 44 gal drum Connected with long tek screws 2mm lightweight wire mesh 50x75, 1.2m high.</p> | | <p>44 gal drum gave better rigidity using tek screws for connecting to droppers, but wire mesh too light.</p> |
|  | <p>Version 3</p> <p>3 x 1.8m star droppers 2 strips of 44 gal drum, try to add support lower and prevent pushing in of mesh. Connected with long tek screws. 2mm lightweight wire mesh 50x75, 1.2m high.</p> |  | <p>Strips were to provide rigidity at the top and lower down, but not enough and tek screws busted or ripped out Wire too lightweight.</p> |
|  | <p>Version 4</p> <p>3 x 1.8m star droppers 1/2 44 gal drum Connected with 1/4 inch screw and bolt 3mm 50x50 wire mesh 1.2m high</p> |  | <p>1/2 drum meant less cutting and gave better strength, connected better with screw and bolt. 3mm was better but in the end if cattle had lice or gave a good scratch, came apart and bent</p> |

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|  | <p>Version 5</p> <p>3 x 1.8m star droppers ½ 44 gal drum Connected with ¼ inch screw and bolt 4mm 100x100 wire mesh, 1.2m high</p> |  | <p>Overall structure better but 4mm wire still could be bent inward or come apart by cattle so not long term re-usable.</p> |
|  | <p>Version 6</p> <p>3 x 1.8m star droppers ½ 44 gal drum Connected with screw and bolt 5mm 150x150 rolled 'goat' wire mesh, 1.5m high.</p> |  | <p>Mesh not bothered by cattle, 150mm squares enable hand to get in to weed and attend tree. However, 44gal restricts tree branches outward growth, and cattle and kangaroos can get to new leaves and branches.</p> |
|  | <p>Version 7</p> <p>3 x 1.8m star droppers 32mm x 5mm metal hoop, connected to droppers with ¼ inch screw and bolt 5mm 150 x 150 pre-rolled 'goat' wire mesh, 1.5m high.</p> | | <p>Very effective, not damaged by cattle, easy access to plant for maintenance and early watering. Corflute if not removed in time restricts growth of branches with them often ending up twisted or downward.</p> |
|  | <p>Version 7.1</p> <p>Same materials as version 7, but use half 44gal drum instead of the corflute.</p> <p>Also use an old tyre instead of half drum.</p> | <p>Cost \$61 in materials and at least an hour in labour. Nov 2017</p> | <p>Allows for less restriction of plant during early growing.</p> <p>Mesh is now raised 150-200mm off ground at planting for extra protection from large roos and cattle.</p> <p><i>Set and forget version!</i></p> |

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The 'Flagship' River Red. Already self-sown on purchase in June 2012, continually eaten and struggling to progress, it was just a thick stump of a trunk.



July 2013



Jan 2016



Sept 2018

River Red paddock tree, planted June 2014

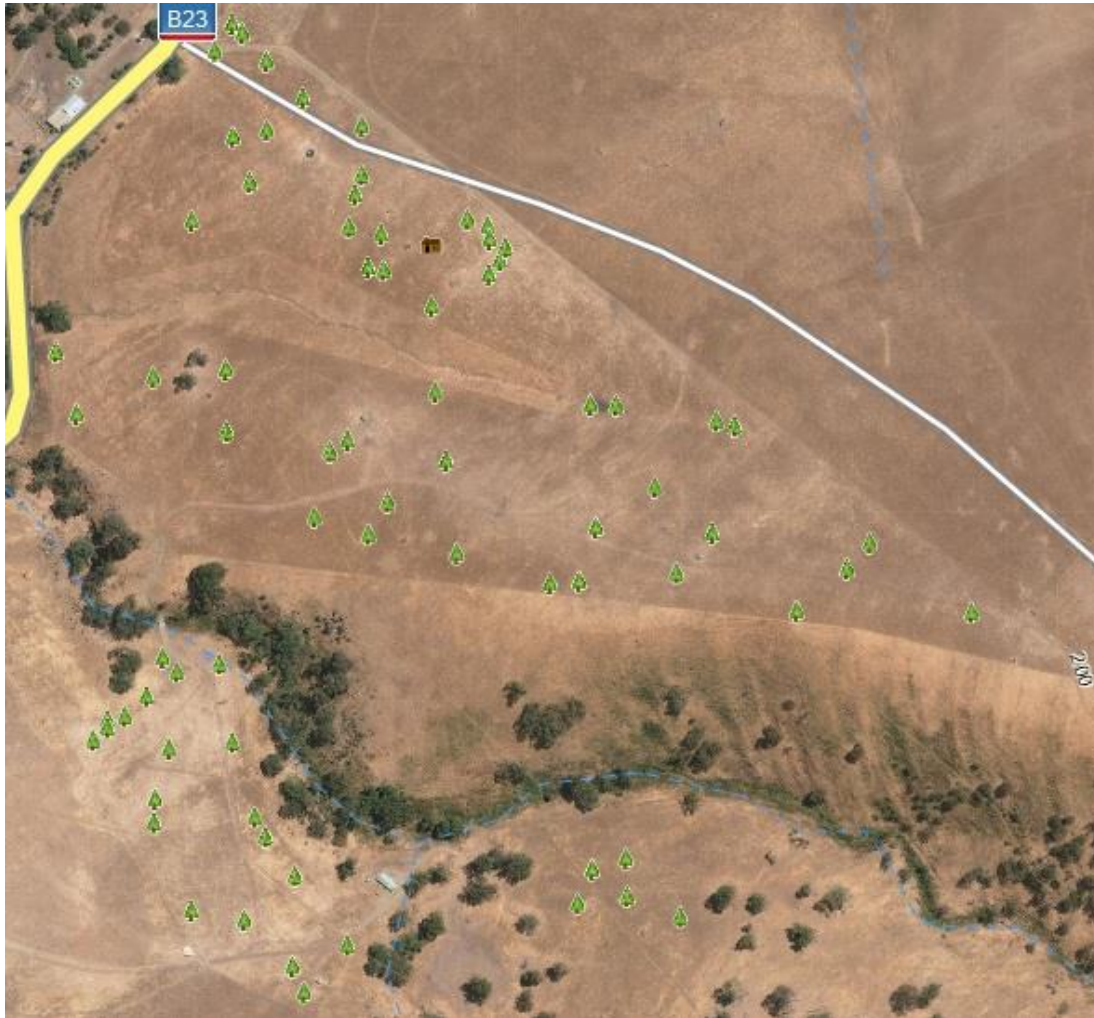


Jun 2014



Jan 2018

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GPS locations of Paddock Trees – Oct 2018
Approx 72 - Red Gum, Blue Gum, Drooping Sheoak

Summary of Paddock Trees planted to January 2019

| Trees species/ Paddocks | DRW | HAY | HOU | MID | MIH | RIV | SQU | STH | TNK | TOP | WEI | Total |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Blue Gum | 4 | | 3 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 49 |
| Drooping Sheoak | 1 | | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 12 |
| Golden Wattle | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Manna Gum | | | | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | 4 |
| Peppermint Box | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Red Gum | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | | | 13 | 2 | | 2 | 21 |
| Grand Total | 7 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 5 | 10 | 5 | 21 | 6 | 11 | 5 | 90 |

Abbreviations and paddock names

| DRW | HAY | HOU | MID | MIH | RIV | SQU | STH | TNK | TOP | WEI |
|----------|-----|-------|-----|-------------|-------|--------|-------|------|-----|------|
| Driveway | Hay | House | Mid | Middle Hill | River | Square | South | Tank | Top | Weir |